



*McG file*

15 June 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, COMIREX

SUBJECT: Satellite Photography of the U.S. for United States  
Geological Survey Mapping Activities

Attached USIB draft, subject as above, has been reviewed by the COMIREX  
MCGWG and is forwarded recommending COMIREX-USIB approval.

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1 Enclosure a/s



Chairman  
COMIREX MC&G Working Group

DISTRIBUTION:

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- Copy 1, 2 Ch/COMIREX [redacted]  
3, 4 DIA TCO [redacted]  
5 -7 Army TCO (Col Park)  
8, 9 Navy TCO (Mr. Wolf)  
10, 11 Air Force TCO (Mr. Holben)  
12 NRO [redacted]  
13 NRO [redacted]  
14 TSO CIA [redacted]  
15 State TCO (Mr. Moyer)  
16 NSA TCO [redacted]  
17 NSA [redacted]  
18, 19 NPIC [redacted]  
20 CIA Member [redacted]  
21 CIA COMIREX Member [redacted]  
22, 23 Ch/ICRS [redacted]  
24 COMIREX Staff, [redacted]  
25 DIA COMIREX Member [redacted]  
26 USGS (Mr. Roy Fordham)  
27 TOPOCOM (Mr. Perry Gilbert)  
28-32 Ch/MCGWG

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DIA review(s) completed.

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GROUP 1 - Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification



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WORKING

## MEMORANDUM FOR USIB

SUBJECT: Satellite Photography of the U.S. for United States Geological Survey Mapping Activities

References: a. USIB-D-46.2/4 (COMIREX-D-15.8/1) 28 March 1968  
b. USIB-D-46.2/10 (COMIREX-D-15.8/7) 12 May 1969

1. On 18 April 1968, by reference a., USIB approved the COMIREX recommendation that USGS be permitted to use available KH-4 source material to update the National Topographic Map Series of the United States excluding Alaska. On 21 May 1969, USIB, by reference b., approved the COMIREX recommendation that, for the continental United States including Alaska, NRO program KH-4 test coverage to the greatest extent possible over mapping requirement areas to meet an annual requirement of 400,000 square statute miles. This action also authorized NRO collection of up to 200,000 square miles annually to meet the annual requirements not fulfilled through programming test coverage. Further by reference b., for the area of the continental United States, including Alaska (but not Hawaii), USIB authorized the USGS use [ ] photography as source material at such time as it becomes available and approved the release of KH-5, [ ]

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[ ] data to the USGS.

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to recommend that authority for USGS to use designated TKH data be extended to include Hawaii, and that NRO collect [ ] photography in line with established requirements in support of the National Topographic Map Program (NTMP) of the United States.

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ENCLOSURE

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3. Use of KH-4 [ ] panoramic photography is a very efficient means of updating the topographic maps of the US. The USGS has made all practical use of existing KH-4 photography for 1:250,000 scale maintenance. 145 maps have been completed but 323 others need revision. NRO has programmed test coverage over NTMP requirement areas but many factors have caused the annual KH-4 coverage of the US to fall far short of the 400,000 goal approved by reference b. in May 1969. Only 100,000 square miles was obtained in 1970. Attachment 1 is a letter from Mr. Radlinski of USGS further describing this matter.

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4. The USGS has expressed an annual NTMP requirement for 400,000 square statute miles [ ] panoramic photography of the United States. It will continue to be expedient for NRO to program test coverage over NTMP requirement areas to satisfy an estimated 100,000 square miles of the annual requirement. [ ]

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charting, and geodesy community, the primary user of this data, supports 25X1  
the USGS requirement for complete coverage of the US in line with overall  
national security priorities.

6. The USGS is responsible for the National Topographic Map Program 25X1  
of United States including Alaska and Hawaii. Accordingly the KH-4, [redacted]

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[redacted] which provide data useful to mapping should  
be authorized for USGS use for all of the geographic area of the US.

7. It is recommended that the United States Intelligence Board approve  
the following actions to facilitate USGS production and maintenance of  
maps of the entire United States, including both Alaska and Hawaii.

a. Release KH-4, KH-5, [redacted] data of Hawaii to USGS 25X1D  
whenever it is available (Conterminous U.S. and Alaska approved previously). 25X1D

1 Enclosure a/s

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